

White-tailed Deer

Antlered deer means a deer having at least one antler that extends three inches or more above the skull. **Antlerless deer** means a deer without antlers or with antlers where the longest antler extends less than three inches above the skull.

If you take two antlered deer, one of the two antlered deer must have at least one antler with four or more antler points one inch or longer. This deer can be taken first or second in either an archery, firearm or muzzleloading season.

A person is limited to purchasing only two kill tags for taking an antlered (buck) deer. You may purchase one archery license **AND** one firearm license (one kill tag each) **OR** one combination license (two kill tags).

Archery Deer Hunting License

It is unlawful to purchase more than one archery deer hunting license. This license entitles residents and nonresidents 10 or older to take one antlered or antlerless deer during the Oct. 1-Nov. 14 or Dec. 1-Jan. 1 open bow and arrow deer season. **Exceptions:** See page 21.

Firearm Deer Hunting License

It is unlawful to purchase more than one firearm deer hunting license. Residents and nonresidents 12 or older may take a deer with at least one antler three inches or longer during the Nov. 15-30 firearm season or during the muzzleloading season. **Exceptions:** See page 21. Hunters age 12 and 13 are restricted to firearm deer hunting only on private land.

Combination Deer Hunting License

Residents and nonresidents are entitled to purchase only one license with two kill tags (regular and restricted) for use during any firearm hunting season (regular firearm and muzzleloading) or archery seasons. A hunter can use both kill tags in the firearm seasons, both in the archery season or one in each season. Youngsters 10 and 11 are restricted to archery-only hunting.

The regular combination kill tag can be used in the archery seasons to tag either an antlered or antlerless deer. The regular combination kill tag can be used in the firearm seasons to tag a legal (3 inches or longer antler) antlered deer of any size except for those areas with exceptions as noted on page 21.

The restricted combination kill tag can be used in the archery seasons to tag an antlerless deer. It also can be used to tag an antlered deer during either the archery or firearms seasons if the antlered deer has at least one antler with four or more antler points each one inch or longer. It is unlawful to use this tag on a smaller antlered deer regardless of the season or area in which it was taken.

Exception: See tagging option for antlerless hunters on page 21.

Antlerless Deer Hunting License

Entitles residents and nonresidents 10 and older to take an antlerless deer or deer with antlers less than three inches in length. Youngsters 10 and 11 are restricted to archery-only hunting. Youngsters 12 and 13 may hunt with a firearm on private land only. Youngsters 12 and 13, who purchase a public land license, are restricted to firearm hunting on Commercial Forest Lands or to archery hunting on public lands. Antlerless licenses are valid during all deer seasons with hunting equipment appropriate for the season and hunting zone. To purchase a private land antlerless license you must provide a landowner's telephone number. There is a limit of three private land antlerless licenses per hunter of which no

more than two are in Zones 1 and 2, and a 40-acre requirement for DMUs in Zones 1 and 2. The TB special management units are exempt from the 40-acre and quantity-restriction requirements.

Under the 40-acre contiguous rule, contiguous means in a solid ownership with no other ownership between parcels. A road does not split ownership. Two separate owners of different parcels lying adjacent to each other cannot be combined to meet the minimum qualification for a private land antlerless license. Nor can a landowner with 20 acres in one location and 20 in another location qualify. The entire 40 acres must be within the same DMU. Once the antlerless license is purchased, and with proper landowner permission, there is no restriction on which parcel of private land is hunted within the DMU. See the 2007 Antlerless Deer Guide for information.

Junior Antlerless Deer Hunting License

Young hunters, ages 10 to 16 on or before Sept. 22, 2007, may purchase one antlerless deer license over the counter July 15 through Aug. 15. No application fee or drawing is required. This license is available only in deer management units with a quota for antlerless licenses. This license may be purchased for either public or private land. A youth must appear in person with a parent or guardian to purchase this license. Youngsters 10 and 11 are restricted to archery-only hunting. Nonresidents, ages 10-16, are allowed to purchase resident licenses. Also see page 30 for information regarding the youth firearm deer season.

Antler Restriction Regulations

Tagging Option for Antlerless Deer Hunters

An antlerless deer hunter, with an unused license valid for an antlered deer and an unused antlerless license for the DMU in which they are hunting, may tag a male antlerless deer with the antlered deer license kill tag. Note: Both licenses must be in the hunter's possession at the time of harvest. All deer must be immediately tagged.

A male antlerless deer means a male deer without antlers or with antlers where the longest antler extends less than three inches above the skull.

Specific DMU Regulations

Persons hunting South Fox Island (DMU 245), Drummond Island (DMU 117) and DMU 135 are permitted to take an antlered deer only if it has at least one antler with two or more antler points, each one or more inches in length.

Persons hunting in DMUs 045 and 122 are permitted to take an antlered deer only if it has at least one antler with three or more antler points, each one or more inches in length.

In these five units the restricted combination kill tag remains limited to a deer with at least four points on one antler. Your archery license, or combination license when used as an archery tag, is still valid for taking an antlerless deer in these units.

Deer Carcass Disposal

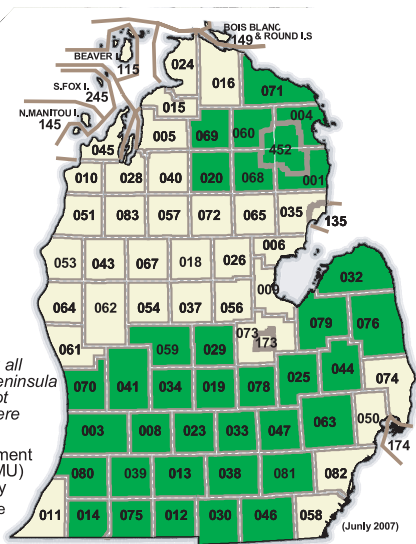
Irresponsible dumping of deer carcasses can spread disease and may result in a ticket. Hunters who process their deer should properly dispose of hide, brain and spinal cord, eyes, spleen, tonsils, bones and head in an approved landfill.

Late Firearm Antlerless Deer Season

A late antlerless deer season will take place on private land in some Lower Peninsula DMUs from Dec. 17, 2007 through Jan. 1, 2008. The DMUs that will be open are shaded on the map at right. Hunters must have a valid antlerless deer license (or DMA permit) for one of the open DMUs with an unused kill tag issued in their name to participate in this hunt. Deer may be taken with a bow and arrow or firearm. The regular unit/land restrictions for antlerless licenses apply.

Legend

- Open on Private Lands
- Closed Including all Upper Peninsula areas, not shown here
- Deer Management Unit (DMU) Boundary
- County Line



Note: DMA permits are not stand-alone licenses. To hunt deer with a DMA permit, you must have purchased a regular firearm, combination, archery or antlerless deer license for the season in which you are hunting.

Special Deer Hunts

South Fox Island Deer Hunting

Deer hunting permits are available for South Fox Island during archery season from Oct. 1-28 and/or firearm season beginning Oct. 29 through Nov. 26. For information, contact: DNR Operations Service Center, 8015 Mackinaw Trail, Cadillac, MI 49601; 231-775-9727.

North Manitou Island Hunts

Licenses for the archery, Oct. 1-26, muzzleloading and regular firearm, Oct. 27-Nov. 4, deer hunting seasons will be awarded by lottery. The application deadline for the primitive seasons is Sept. 24 and Oct. 16 for the regular season. There is an application fee. For information, contact the Park Superintendent, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, 9922 Front Street, Empire, MI 49630; 231-326-5134, or at www.nps.gov/slbe.

Shiawassee River State Game Area Deer Hunting

Contact the DNR Field Office (225 E. Spruce Street, St. Charles, MI 48655) at 989-865-6211. The deadline for application is Sept. 10, 2007.

Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge Deer Hunting

Contact the SNWR (6975 Mower Rd., Saginaw, MI 48601) at 989-777-5930.

Allegan State Game Area Refuge

Contact the DNR Field Office (4590 118th Ave., Allegan, MI 49010) at 269-673-2430. The deadline for application is Sept. 7, 2007.

Hoffmaster State Park

Contact the park office at 231-798-3711. This park will be scheduling a managed antlerless deer hunt. The deadline for application is Sept. 7, 2007.

Baiting Deer and Feeding Deer or Elk

“Baiting” is defined as putting out food materials, salt or minerals for deer to attract, lure, or entice them as an aid in hunting.

“Feeding” is defined as placing food materials out that attract deer or elk for any other reason, such as recreational viewing.

Deer baiting and the feeding of deer or elk is illegal in Alcona, Alpena, Crawford, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego and Presque Isle counties. In all other counties the rules for baiting and feeding are as follows:

Baiting: (Deer only. Elk baiting is illegal in Michigan.)

- ❑ Baiting may occur only from Oct. 1 to Jan. 1.
- ❑ The bait material may be of any food type.
- ❑ The volume of bait at any hunting site cannot exceed two gallons.
- ❑ The bait must be dispersed over a minimum of a 10-foot x 10-foot area.
- ❑ The bait must be scattered directly on the ground. It can be scattered by any means, including mechanical spin-cast feeders, provided that the spin-cast feeder does not distribute more than the maximum volume allowed.

Feeding for Recreational Viewing: (Deer and Elk.)

- ❑ The feed material may be of any food type.
- ❑ The volume of feed at any residence cannot exceed two gallons.
- ❑ The feed must be scattered on the ground. It can be scattered by any means, including mechanical spin-cast feeders, provided that the spin-cast feeder does not distribute more than the maximum daily volume allowed.
- ❑ The feed must be scattered or dispersed at least 100 yards from any area accessible to cattle, goats, sheep, new world camelids, bison, swine, horses, or captive cervidae and no more than 100 yards from a residence on land owned or possessed by that person.
- ❑ Food plots, naturally occurring foods, standing agricultural crops, or food placed as a result of using normal agricultural practices are not considered to be baiting or feeding.

Hunter Cooperator Patches

Cooperator patches have been used as an incentive for successful hunters to bring their deer or bear to DNR offices and other check stations. A bear patch is not available this year. Hunters wishing to receive a deer cooperator patch must check their deer by Jan. 11, 2008. A deer head must be presented to receive a patch. Patches are not available by mail. The list of deer check stations is available on the DNR Web site. Fewer check stations will be open in 2007 as a result of budget cuts. Hunters are strongly urged to call ahead whenever possible to confirm hours and days of operation.

Quality Deer Management

The DNR supports the voluntary implementation of Quality Deer Management in Michigan. The Natural Resources Commission has established a moratorium, until April 2008, on accepting any proposals for mandatory QDM regulations. There are no QDM proposals for 2007. For more information on the QDM process, contact the DNR Wildlife Division, Box 30444, Lansing, MI 48909; 517-373-1263 or log on to www.michigan.gov/dnr.